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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT TO ASSESS CURRENT  
OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE'S ANIMAL QUARANTINE STATION.

1 WHEREAS, for more than 100 years, the Department of  
2 Agriculture, through its animal quarantine station program, has  
3 kept Hawaii free of rabies; and  
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5 WHEREAS, current Department of Agriculture rules require  
6 dogs, cats, and other carnivores originating from the United  
7 States and other non-exempted areas, upon arrival in the State,  
8 to be confined to the quarantine station for a period up to 120  
9 days to prevent the introduction of rabies; and  
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11 WHEREAS, members of the United States military, some of  
12 whom have received assignments to Hawaii without sufficient time  
13 to comply with the Department of Agriculture's pre-entry  
14 requirements to avoid subjecting their pets to quarantine  
15 confinement, have expressed concern about this policy; and  
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17 WHEREAS, long-standing concerns relate to the animal  
18 quarantine station facilities, including cement floors that may  
19 harbor bacteria, absence of air conditioning, size of the animal  
20 pens, and exposure levels of direct sunlight and heat for long  
21 periods of time; and  
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23 WHEREAS, concerns have also been raised about the  
24 sensitivity levels of animal quarantine facility employees and  
25 the need for ongoing training since employees are tasked to be  
26 the caretakers and are in frequent, direct contact with  
27 quarantined animals; and  
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29 WHEREAS, there are international models that incorporate  
30 modern approaches to animal quarantine facilities and



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1 procedures, such as those employed in facilities in Melbourne,  
2 Australia, and Singapore; and

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4 WHEREAS, recently, individuals whose animals have been held  
5 at the quarantine station for varying periods feel that there is  
6 a need and have petitioned the Department of Agriculture to  
7 review the State's quarantine rules; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
10 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
11 Session of 2015, that the Auditor is requested to conduct an  
12 audit to assess the current operations and procedures at the  
13 Department of Agriculture's animal quarantine station,  
14 including:

- 15  
16 (1) The pattern and structure of revenues generated from  
17 user fees;  
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19 (2) The uses and purposes of the user fees;  
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21 (3) The amount and source of funds expended on  
22 improvements to quarantine facilities for the last ten  
23 years; and  
24  
25 (4) Recommendations for improvements to the quarantine  
26 facilities and procedures, including those based on  
27 national or international models; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor submit a report of  
30 its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later  
31 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
32 2016, including any proposed legislation to effectuate and  
33 implement the current science on controlling rabies in the  
34 animal quarantine station facilities and procedures; and  
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor encourage and  
37 support transparency and good government by contacting and  
38 consulting stakeholders who express an interest in providing  
39 relevant input in the audit of the Department of Agriculture's  
40 animal quarantine station; and



OFFERED BY:

MAR 05 2015